

CHAPTER VIII

LITTLE BOB LOST

IF Captain Gould was not mistaken in
Ms
calculations about the geographical
position
of the island, the summer season could
not
have more than another three months
to run.
After that, winter would arrive,
formidable by
reason of its cold squalls and furious
storms.

The faint chance of attracting the
attention of some
ship out at sea by means of signals
would have
disappeared, In winter sailors avoid
these dangerous
waters. But just possibly something
would
happen before then to modify the
situation.

Existence was much what it had
been ever
since that gloomy 26th of October when
the boat
was destroyed. The monotony was
terribly trying
to such active men. With nothing to
do but
wander about at the foot of the cliff
which im-
prisoned them, tiring their eyes with
watching
the ever deserted sea, they needed
extraordinary
moral courage not to give way to

despair,

The long, long days were spent in
conversation

in which Jenny bore the principal
part. The

brave young woman loved them all,
taxed her

in